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N O R T H E R N U F O N E W S

January 1977 Issue 32

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EDITORIAL "What will 1977 bring?" Kathryn Jayne Preston of PULSE,Lancs.

As Jenny has been in hospital during December I have been asked to write this months editorial (well I was partly asked,and partly I offered to do it.)

1976 has just come to a close and a new year begun.One or two advancements in the field of ufology have been made in the past twelve months.NUFON has gained a steady footing in the North,and there is talk of a Southern Network.We all no doubt hope that British ufology can go on from this to gain strehgth,but where can we go from here?

I have a strong feeling - call it intuition,or whatever, -that something big will happen in our field during 1977.Will we make a major breakthrough? Will we discover the true nature of the ufo phenomenon? I do not know what will happen, but I believe something will.I have noted several little'coincidences' (or omens?) in recent weeks.

As you know,Jenny has been helping the BBC with a documentary for TV.I am sure it may benefit us by bringing an increase in public awareness about ufos.The BBC have also given radio air time to 'A Spaceman Came Travelling'.It is a Christmas song giving the nativity the ufo angle.It says in effect that in 2000 years the song will be sung again.If,indeed,the birth of Christ was connected with the UFO phenomenon,then the release of this record at this particular time could be significant.A movie is to be released in 1977 called 'Close Encounters of the Third Kind',made by the team which brought us 'Jaws'.It is being promoted as the film of the year and is about a serious ufo investigation of a CE III landing case.Back on TV Steve Austin,the Six Million Dollar Man,has been dealing with aliens recently.Earthquakes played a prominent part in the plot - and 1976 has been the year of the earthquake.One of the women who started the Ulster Peace Movement claims she was directed to do so by a ufonaut (and the President of the USA says he has seen a UFO - ED)

My group,PULSE,is working on a terrestrial zodiac which I have discovered.It is unique in that it is based upon a straight line and not a circle,as other known zodiacs.I have called it the LEMANCHE ZODIAC (from the counties it spans).It starts north of Preston in LAncashire,and covers Greater MANchester and CHEshire When further research is done,both on the ground and in the library,it may yield some information about UFOs (viz a viz Orthoteny and the correlation with ley lines).Who knows? We have also started a leyographic study of the Isle of Man.Here I have found two ley lines crossing at right angles.Even more interesting is that the arms of the cross formed are at an angle of 57 degrees to the cardinal points.(57.2958 degrees are equal to one radian,the natural unit of angular measurement).I think this one discovery may do more than anything to reduce the numbers of those who say that ley lines (and orthoteny) are pure coincidence.

I would like to close by wishing all groups and their members a very happy and successful 1977.May we all have something to contribute to the ever expanding knowledge of mankind.

(EDITORS NOTE: Anyone interested in 'coincidences' should make sure they read the report being prepared on the 'Gary' case.1976 was a good year for them!)

Contributions this month: BUFORA, FAPURG, Irish UFO Research Centre, PULSE, UFORA Staffs, WUFOS Ian Cresswell, Bill Muir. Thanks to Philip Hudson.

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NUFON:: The Northern UFO Network is a communication and liaison medium for independant organisations and researchers in Northern Britain.The Northern UFO News is a monthly forum for their news,views and ideas. The opinions herein expressed do not,necessarily,reflect those of the network as a whole.

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NEWS:

:: As you will note the normal eight pages has been reduced to six this month. This is due to factors relating to the hospitalisation of your editor.It is hoped to return to normal with the next issue.

:: Only one additional group,FAPURG,confirmed that they wished ASSOCIATION status to the network.The six associated groups,plus the affiliates are included on the data reference sheet.Any group may request a change in status via a NUFON Representatives meeting.

:: The next NUFON Representatives meeting is to be held at the Imperial Hotel, Temple Street,BIRMINGHAM on February 12th 1977.It will commence at approximately 2pm.,and it is hoped a short lecture will be organised in conjunction with it.The venus is adjacent to the New Street Railway station in the city centre.Full directions,parking facilities etc are available from UFOSIS c/o 136 Cleveland Tower,Holloway Circus,BIRMINGHAM B1 1UE.

The main topic for discussion will be the NUFON 1977 convention.There should on this occasion be more than usual time for getting to know your fellow ufologists,and we hope that groups will be prepared to say a few words about their respective work.

:: MUFORA are holding an open meeting at the GPO Club,Quay Street,Central Manchester on January 20th 1977 8pm.All are welcome.

NB THE EDITOR WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL THOSE WHO SENT HER GET WELL CARDS DURING HER RECENT HOSPITALISATION.(Considering some of the famous names on them I am thinking of auctioning them at Southerby's)

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A HAPPY NEW YEAR??

Whilst not having been able to prepare an editorial for this issue,owing to my slow powers of recuperation,I did want to take the opportunity of wishing all those involved in Northern Ufology,and indeed our readers from elsewhere,a happy and successful 1977.If it turns out as well for you as 1976 did for me personally then it will not be bad.Looking back to the January 1976 issue of N.U.N. I see that I made some resolutions.What happened to them? It was said that we should make the most of what we had available,'Our long term goal is scientific respectability - but this cannot be achieved without putting our own house in order.'All of that is still true.I think we HAVE made progress in '76 and at the present moment I believe that '77 will see the fruition of this.We have had a hard year,which has seen us involved in long series of negotiations. For example NUFON finally thrashed out its own two tier system of association and affiliation.The BUDC scheme has pointed the way towards a closer involvement of science within ufology,although there is still disagreement as to how this should be done.NUFON published some excellent detailed reports from a few hard-working investigators,although there are still a good many who are NOT so hard-working or conscientious.We also opened up a very important link with Flying Saucer Review,which has seen investigators being credited for their work in this highly respected medium.This link promisses to blossom during the next few months into an idea which could revolutionise the UFO scene in Britain.There will be a lot more to say on that in the next issue.Suffice it to say that it is concerned with another resolution - that of specialisation and selectivity in investigation.This was one so well laid out by Trevor Whitaker in his paper to the NUFON convention in Sheffield last Spring.Apart from this our contacts with Britains two national organisations,BUFORA and CONTACT has bloomed.A highly productive result is the Northern England Catalogue whivh will be published in 1977 or 1978 as a lasting indication of how cooperation CAN work in research. I could go on,but it is already clear that 1976 DID provide many steps in the right direction.I honestly feel that 1977,if not seeing us actually reach our objective,will at least put us in clear sight of its attainment. JENNY RANDLES

PUBLICATIONS:

The current issue of Flying Saucer Review, Voll 22 No 4, contains several reports credited to organisations involved with NUFON. There is also a full report on the British Airways radar/visual case, first ferenced in N.U.N. November 1976. In the Jan/Feb 1977 issue of BUFORA Journal there is a full report on the Birmingham conference.

Note also that Issue No 2 of Northern Ufology, edited this time by Ann and Philip Rogers, is hopefully to be on sale at the February NUFON meeting. For all those people who have been intrigued by the 'Gary' case, as presented at the last NUFON meeting, I should point out that Peter Warrington and myself are to shortly publish a report on this. It is envisaged that it will be in the form of a special issue of MUFORA LINK. Please contact Peter for details of this.

SIGHTING REPORTS

Some reports from the Fylde area FAPURG

Report 5303:: Two young women at Blackburn reported an object over the Preston area, seen on November 17th 1953 at about midnight. It was silvery and shaped like a small plate. The rim of the object was shining more brightly than the remainder. It hovered for several seconds and then shot away at a terrific speed in a north westeely direction. It was in view for a total of seven seconds.
CLASSIFICATION C 3 b VALUE 4 Reference: Lancs Evening Post 19/11/53

Report 6714:: There were many reports of a cigar or cross shaped object seen over the Blackpool area on October 29th 1967. The time appears to have been 1.20 am, from the most accurately recorded. Mr Smart, an aircraft engineer, and his wife saw it from Lytham St Amnes. They describe it as white, shaped like a cigar, and moving SouthWest at a speed estimated as 150mph. It then turned northwards and sped away at terrific speed. As it did so it tilted upwards to reveal a cross shape. It may be recalled that a great flsp of flying crosses abounded in these years. They were often related officially to Venus, but in this instance the witnesses were familiar with that planet. Mr Cox of Blackpool gave the best report. He described the object as zeppelin like, but broader in the front. It moved south westwards and was coloured golden orange. There was no sound. He rushed in to tell his familly, and his son reported that the object returned heading northwards, a few moments later. On this occasion it was moving much faster and was flashing lights. There were several other independant witnesses.
CLASSIFICATION C 3 a VALUE 5 Reference Blackpool Gazette 30,31/10/67

Report 6715:: Two men viewing the sky through a telescope with 250x magnification reported a strange object at 21.00 on November 22 1967. At first it looked like a shooting star falling to earth. Then it changed into a saucer shape glowing bright yellow, before dimming and fading out. It was moving north westwards and was in view for five minutes. The object was reported to the police.
CLASSIFICATION B 4 b VALUE 3 Reference Blackpool Gazette 23/11/67

Report 6909:: There were many reports of a bright green object sporting a trail of yellow sparks seen to flash across the sky north westwards. Police all over the Fylde area received dozens of calls and from the descriptions there seems little doubt that it was in fact a very large fireball.
CLASSIFICATION C 4 a VALUE 3 Reference Blackpool Gazette 25/10/69

Report 7118 Fleetwood, Lancs AUGUST 1971 FAPURG

The witness to this case holds a degree in sociology. At the time he was working late at a hotel in Fleetwood and was standing outside waiting for a taxi. The time was 00.15, and there was scattered cloud. Suddenly he saw the five objects appear from out of a cloud bank and flash across the sky maintaining a tight formation. After a few seconds they disappeared into a nother cloud bank. The area of sky traversed was large and consequently the movement could not have been due to optical effects due to the motion of the clouds. The speed must also have been high. The objects were oval in shape, coloured white and estimated as about one quarter the size of the full moon each. Cf Report 7622 April 1976 issue N.U.N.

CLASSIFICATION B 4 c Value 2

Report 7697 Skegness,Lincs August 16 1976 Philip Hudsom

This is a very interesting case,although the investigator feels that it could have an explanation connected with some form of electrical discharge.It concerns Mandy Smith,who is 15.At 02.45 on the date in question she was woken by a noise like a generator humming.There was also a flash of light like lightening,although the weather was clear.After a few minutes she got out of bed and went over to the window where she saw at 190 degrees and elevation 2 degrees a white mushroom shaped light.It was seen above trees and houses and the base was not visible.There was a clear edge to it however,with a dimmer glow above.This glow was pulsating and as it did so the noise was revving in time with the change of brightness.

The light was bright enough to light up her bedroomand to show trees close to where the object appeared.They were swaying to and fro as if a helicopter were above them,although there was only a light breeze.She cannot describe the size except from the area it covered.It was apparantly very large.The object now rose to 5 degree elevation and shot out to sea (bearing 170 degrees).It disappeared within a second,after being in view a minute or more.Mrs Smith was woken by Mandy's calls.She did not see the object but did hear the noise.The area where the object was reported is open fields.There is a very small electricity generating station,but the investigator found no evidence that this could have been the cause (though it may have been the bait? - ED). CLASSIFICATION C 3 b VALUE 4

Report 7698 Gateshead,Durham August 22 1976 Bill Muir

Two peculiar observations are reported by one witness.At about midnight she was going outside to the ash-bin.She saw an indistinct black shape in the sky. As she looked up it zoomed away south westwards with a whooshing or sucking noise and leaving a red trail which faded instantly.About forty minutes later she got out of bed and opened the landing window to see a huge orange oval shape the size of a golf ball moving westwards through the sky.It was in view six to eight seconds.Earlier in the evening she also reported the long duration sighting of a flashing green light which was most likely a bright star.
CLASSIFICATION C 4 c VALUE 1

Report 76/100 Stoke on Trent,Staffs October 4 1976 UFORA Staffs

There are at least two groups of witnesses to peculiar phenomena over the Stoke skies on this night.A group of schoolboys reported several different objects between 20.30 amd 22.00,including various lights moving out of the moon and a star which suddenly started to move and follow an aircraft.There was also a report at 21.30 of a bright star which followed an aircraft and then split into three pieces moving apart.Two of the pices rejoined.This can be compared with the report from Barnsley (See 75/137 September 1976 N.U.N. or FSR Vol 22 No 4). Two witnesses from Kidsgrove at 20.45 reported a peculiar white light,which they are sure was not an aireraft,moving slowly and silently All observations followed approximately the same path,on a north west to south east course.It is quite possible that at least some of the lights seen were satelittes. CLASSIFICATION C 4 a VALUE 3

HUMANOID ENCOUNTERS

A note in the December issue related some basic information on the incidents occuring in the south of England.A full report of the Winchester by pass case from November 14 is to be featured in FSR.The other Humanoid report featured on BBC TV,seen by a woman near Bath,in fact turned out to be a student hoax. However,it has been discovered that a close encounter with vehicle interference occured during the same period in the mid Wales town of Rhayader,and a report on this is being obtained.Finally we have now discovered a further entity sighting.This will be refered to as REPORT 7699.Bill Muir has investigated it and a full report will be included in the February issue.It occured on September 3rd 1976 at Fencehouses in Curham.Two women were witness to the landing at 21.00 of an oval shaped object on some waste land.One of the women actually got close enough to touch the object.Two small occupants came out of the craft,and apparantly had claw like hands.

NB It has just come to my notice that report 7697 should be related to the observation in Report 7669,September 76 N.U.N.,that a strange diesel engine noise was heard on August 16th in the early hours by a NUFON investigator.

Report 76/101 Aldingham,Cumbria October 10 1976 Ian Cresswell

At 20.10 four witnesses,three men and one woman,aged 19 and 20 were driving along the A 5087.Over Morecambe Bay they saw a circular orange light,the apparant size of a match head,surrounded by an aura the size of a golf ball.It was in the distance over Morecambe Bay and seemed to be stationary,but it is not known whether it was in fact moving too slowly to be noticed because it was covered quite quickly bycloud.The witnesses drove along the road for about two minutes and the object reappareaed.It then split into three parts.One of these moved upwards and the other two moved parallel on a north easterly course following the road.They all disappeared after a few seconds as if covered by cloud.The car was stoped at each sighting.The weather was very overcast and no stars were visible. Reference: North Western Mail 13/10/76 CLASSIFICATION C 3 b VALUE 4 It is possible that we might classify this B3b as the chief reporting witness was a naval architect and familiar with flares etc.

Report 76/102 Alstonefield,Derbyshire October 11 1976 UFORA Staffs

Four members of a familly were traveling from Ilam,in Staffordshire,along an unclassified road across the Derbyshire border to a whist drive at Alstonefield. At 19.40 an object appeared to the west which they firstly took to be an aircraft.However,the light configuration looked odd.It had a steady white light, the apparant luminosity of a 60 watt bulb, at the apex of a triangle.The two lower lights were flashing together,blue like a camera flash.The object moved towards the village to which they headed and then

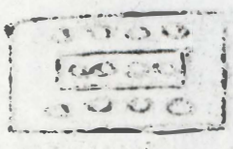
stopped,hovering there for some minutes.The car was stopped and the window wound down but no sound was heard.The object then turned to the south and moved away along the valley side.Total duration ten minutes. CLASSIFICATION C 4 b VALUE 2

Report 76/103 Shipley,West Yorkshire October 16 1976 Ian Cresswell

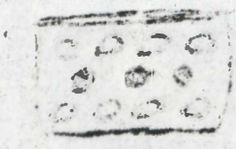
Following the report 75/141 given in the December issue this witness from Shipley West Yorkshire now claims an even more bizarre occurance.The address was given in the last issue and it is hoped that the BUFORA Yorkshire team will follow it up. On this instance Paul Bennett claims that with four other boys at 19.00 they saw a black figure about two feet in height,with no facial features at all.On reaching the scene they found some tiny footprints.Fifteen minutes later one of the boys heard a voice in his head say 'Paul,Paul,Paul'.Paul then went to bed feeling restless.A shadow of a small figure appeared on the door,projected there by a strong street lamp outside.Moments later the voice saying 'Paul etc' was heard by himself.He is now convinced that he is about to have a contact experience of some kind.It is probably true that this incident can be explained by various subjective factors,but if further details do come to light we shall of course record them. CLASSIFICATION C 2 b Value 6

Report 76/104 Gateshead,Durham October 24 1976 Bill Muir.

This is a very interesting case,although the classification is probably misleading as it is based upon a factor which conceivably may be unrelated to the ufo event. Nonetheless,as it occured in the same area of Gateshead which has produced a number of recent reports one must ask about the possibilities of something unusual happening there.The witnesses were two children,who wish anonymity.A has filled out a report form,but T has refused.He says that he feels that you can get put in a mental home if you say you believe in UFOs! T saw the object for two minutes as it moved southwards across the sky.He says it made a slight sucking noise.A only saw the last 20-25 seconds as T called at his home to bring him out to see it.He says it was silent as it moved away north westwards,accelerating in the distance. A's mother called the boys in immediately and both drew the object right away and independantly.They agree on a platform structure with dim yellow lights and a central part projecting downwards with red lights.The drawings are underside views. Immediately the boys came in A switched on his battery tape recorder,which his mother attests had worked perfectly before the event.However the tape speeded up, sound came out garbled and the tape spilled out,splitting into pieces.



A's drawing



T's drawing

CLASSIFICATION C 1 b VALUE 7

With reference to this previous report note the shape and its similarity to that in reports: 7609 (March 76 NUN),7339 (July 76 NUN) and several others.

Report 76Ø105 comes from the Newcastle Evening Chronicle of 10/11/76 .It concerns an observation of a white disc through binoculars.It was seen for many minutes stationary close to the moon.There is little doubt that this was the planet Jupiter,which was in that position at the time.

Report 76/106 St Helens,Merseyside November 16 1976 WUFOS

NUFON received a signed declaration from nine firemen who were on duty at the local station at 18.55.The sky was starry and clear .The object was a flashing blue/white light moving slowly eastwards.It then turned suddenly nothwards and moved out of sight moving very fast.It was in view twelve minutes in all.The report has been passed to WUFOS. CLASSIFICATION B 4 b Value 3

Report 76/107 Newcastle,Tyne & Wear November 25 1976 Ian Cresswell

A woman reported in the Newcastle Evening Chronicle(29/11/76) that she had seen a brilliant white star at 17.00 whilst cycling home.It moved slowly south west and then south and then just disappeared.It was in view 7 - 8 minutes.A further witness reported seing it. CLASSIFICATION B 4 a Value 4

NOTIFICATION CARDS The Irish UFO Research Centre report that the mysterious bangs heard in November over SW England have been plaguing Ireland too,around Naas in Eire particularly.The Irish Secret Service have been called in.

THE DERBY REPEATER CASE

This is an interesting case,reported recently to BUFORA by the witness - a Mrs Thorpe.It concerns a long series of UFO sightings,which began in November 1958. On this occasion she saw an orange oval shape moving across the sky,which was completely overcast.She followed it for several minutes,even after she had got onto a bus.On two occasions she tried to bring the attention of others to it but something prevented her.She experienced the same sensation in October 1969 when she saw a white disc flying above and behind a small light aircraft.At the time she was outdoors with the butcher,but she could not say anything to make him look at it,Around this period 1969-70 she had several sightings of white discs.Her husband is an enginner,who has worked for A.V.Roe in Canada.He was with them at the time when they were building,or attempting to bu ld,a flying saucer.He did not believe her reports,until on one occasion he was witness to one of the white discs at the same time.At this time sudden events began to happen in the home.For example,an electric clock (which was operated from the mains) on two occasions separated by eighteen months started to run BACKWARDS. It has not malfunctioned at any other time.There was also an incident when both Mrs Thorpe and her husband were in the living room and a black top off a vitamin bottle suddenly materialised in the middle of the floor and started to roll majestically across it.Neither of the witnesses can recall where the top had come from.On March 2nd 1974 Mrs Thorpe had her last sighting to date.On this occasion it was nothing more spectacular than a white light,but after it she commented to others that these sightings appeared to immediately proceed a disaster of some kind.On this occasion she felt that there might be an air crash.Indeed on March 3rd 1974 there was one of the worst air disasters of all time.Whether or not there is any factual basis to these incidents,or whether it is purely subjective to inter-relate possibly completely unrelated incidents is not at this stage known.It is by no means unusual,however,for their to be a connection between people who have a large number of ufo sightings and psychic phenomena connected with their persons.It is possible that potentially psychic people may subjectively conjure up ufo sightings as an adjunct to the psychic power which is being awakened within them at a particular time,as in the instance of a specific precognitive experience of an air crash.This report has been passed on to the BUFORA Human Aspects adviser team for their report.

NORTHERN UFO NEWS

A reminder is given to all persons with an X in the box below that their subscriptions expired with the DECEMBER 1976 issue.This will be the last issue sent to those who do not resubscribe.Subscription is £2 for all 1977 monthly issues and should be payed either to the treasurer or the editor,with cheques and p.o.s made payable to NUFON.

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